

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1        1.    An actuating device for miniature keyboards and  
2        input tablets, comprising:

3            an actuating element adapted to the size of keys and  
4        tablet fields of palmtop computers, the actuating element  
5        having a dome (12) adapted to the curve of a fingertip  
6        such that the dome can be fitted to the fingertip by  
7        means of a removable adhesive bond, and wherein the dome  
8        has a pin-shaped projection (14) on a convex side which  
9        serves as an actuating member.

1        2.    The actuating device in accordance with Claim 1,  
2        wherein the dome (12) is made of a soft plastic material  
3        which molds to the fingertip.

1        3.    The actuating device in accordance with Claim 1,  
2        wherein a concave side of the dome (12) is joined to an  
3        adhesive layer (18) which permits repeated fitting and  
4        removal of the dome to and from the fingertip.

1        4.    The actuating device in accordance with Claim 3,  
2        wherein the adhesive layer (18) is perforated.

1        5.    The actuating device in accordance with Claim 1,  
2        wherein a concave side of the dome is joined to a ring-  
3        shaped layer (28) which bears an adhesive material, and  
4        the dome forms a cavity (24) within the ring-shaped layer

5 that acts as a suction cup when the dome is fitted on the  
6 fingertip.

1 6. The actuating device in accordance with Claim 5,  
2 wherein a circumference of the dome is circular in shape.

1 7. The actuating device in accordance with Claim 5,  
2 wherein the pin-shaped projection (22) has a funnel-  
3 shaped extension (25) that protrudes into the cavity (24)  
4 as far as the rim (21) of the dome to form another cavity  
5 (26) that acts as another suction cup when the dome is  
6 fitted on the fingertip.

1 8. The actuating device in accordance with Claim 5,  
2 wherein the dome (20, 30) and the pin-shaped projection  
3 (22, 32) are manufactured as one piece.

1 9. The actuating device in accordance with Claim 1,  
2 wherein, in order to form the pin-shaped projection (14),  
3 a pin is inserted into an opening in the dome (12) and  
4 joined to the dome (12) and to an adhesive layer (18).

1 10. The actuating device in accordance with Claim 1,  
2 wherein the dome (30) is joined on a concave side to a  
3 ring-shaped layer (36) which bears an adhesive material,  
4 and that the dome forms a bell-shaped chamber within the  
5 ring-shaped layer which is filled out by an inlay (38)  
6 made of a felt-type material.

11. The actuating device in accordance with Claim 10, wherein the dome (30) has a thin wall (34) which has a central area that merges into the pin-shaped projection (32).

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